

Remarks

Claims 2, 4-7, 9, 12-20, and 24-28 are now pending in the present application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Examiner Devore is sincerely thanked for indicating that claims 2, 9, 12, 13, 16, 18-20, and 25-27 contain allowable subject matter.

Claim Rejections

Claims 4-7, 14, 15, 17, 24, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0161282 to Bolton (hereinafter "Bolton"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Claim 4 recites a mixing region connected to the first and second openings and the first writing tip and configured to substantially homogeneously mix the first and second fluids and dispense the substantially homogeneously mixed fluid to the first writing tip. Bolton does not disclose, teach, or suggest the mixing region as claimed in claim 4.

Bolton discloses a marker pen having two nibs 14, 25 that are separated from each other, "thereby avoiding any contamination between the liquids of the respective nibs." (Fig. 1 and Paragraph [0051].) In another embodiment, "the spacing between nibs 14, 25 is essentially provided by an impermeable sheath 32." (Fig. 4 and Paragraph [0053].) Bolton does not disclose a mixing region connected to first and second openings of fluid reservoirs and the first writing tip and configured to substantially homogeneously mix the first and second fluids and dispense the substantially homogeneously mixed fluid to the first writing tip, as required by claim 4 of the present application. If Bolton discloses a region in which fluids are mixed, it would be the writing surface itself: "In use, movement of the nibbed end of the marker pen over a writing surface causes the eradicating solution dispersed [to the writing surface] by the nib 25 to react chemically

with the coloured ink already dispensed by the annular nib 14...". (Paragraph [0073].) However, such a writing surface is not connected to first and second openings of fluid reservoirs and the first writing tip and configured to substantially homogeneously mix the first and second fluids and dispense the substantially homogeneously mixed fluid to the first writing tip. Bolton simply does not disclose, teach, or suggest the mixing region as claimed in claim 4. Therefore, claim 4, and all claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be patentable over Bolton. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Claim 15 recites that the first and second chemicals are chemically reactive and solidify into a solid product upon chemically reacting. One example disclosed in the specification is the reaction between a fluid resin and a fluid hardener, which solidify into a solid product upon chemically reacting.

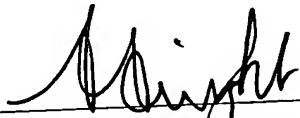
Bolton discloses "a solution of an eradicating medium which reacts chemically with the dye of the indicator ink to change its pH and therefore the colour of the indicator ink dye." (Paragraph [0073].) Bolton does not disclose, teach, or suggest that the eradicating medium and the indicator ink solidify into a solid product upon chemically reacting. Many conventional inks comprise solutions that become "solid" over time due to evaporation of their solvents and depositing of their solid dye solutes. However, such an effect is due to evaporation, not a chemical reaction resulting in a solid product. Thus, even if Bolton's inks may become "solid" over time, Bolton fails to disclose, teach, or suggest first and second chemicals that are chemically reactive and solidify into a solid product upon chemically reacting. Therefore, claim 15, and all claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be patentable over Bolton. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Conclusion and Fees

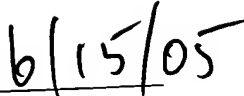
Because Applicant has paid for 20 claims and 3 independent claims, and because there are now 20 claims and 3 independent claims pending, Applicant believes that no fee is due. Applicant believes that all outstanding issues have been resolved, and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance. If Examiner Devore believes that a telephone

conference will further prosecution of the present case, he is invited to contact Applicant at the number indicated below.

Respectfully,



Andrew F. Knight, Applicant
2770 Airline Goldmine Rd.
Canon, GA 30520
703-795-7375



Date